

MINUTES  
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY  
APRIL 10, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Scott, Sutphen, Block, Ashworth, Furlong, Williams  
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from DEEP to Groton Utilities regarding Drinking Water Interconnection

Staff explained that the Agency received a copy of the diversion permit to allow the connection between Groton Utilities and Aquarian Water companies. The Agency had permitted the work in Route 1 to connect the water lines last year.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF February 13, 2013

MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 13, 2013.

Motion by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

IV. NEW APPLICATIONS

1. Electric Boat Former Midway Facility Corrective Action, 175 Industrial Drive

Eric Axelrod with Woodard and Curran, representing Electric Boat, presented the plans to complete remediation of two polluted wetland areas. The two wetland pockets are contaminated with heavy metals as a result of past use of the property. Soil will be removed to a depth of 2 feet, depending on the depth of contamination and the wetland topography and vegetation will be replaced. Contaminated soil and water will be contained and taken off site for proper disposal. This is a voluntary effort to comply with state and federal regulations.

Mr. Axelrod described the nature of the two wetlands. The larger of the two has a ponded area that functions as a vernal pool. The smaller is a wooded wetland that does not hold surface water. In response to a question by Sutphen, Ian Broadwater, soil scientist, explained that the vernal pool hosts many frog egg masses and spotted salamander masses.

Mr. Axelrod reviewed the five year monitoring program that is detailed in the application. He also reviewed work that will take place on the Poquonnock River Park on Depot Road which is not under the jurisdiction of the Agency.

The Agency discussed the classification of this application. Although there is direct wetland impact, the Agency determined that the work will result in a positive impact on the wetlands.

MOTION: To classify the application as minor.

Motion made by Block, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

The Agency decided to walk the property on their own.

2. 0 Military Highway, Lot 3

Staff reviewed the application for work within 100 feet of an intermittent watercourse on an existing lot off Military Highway. The house will be built within the regulated area and the watercourse will be piped and discharged to a catch basin in Military Highway. She noted that trees have been cut on the lot in spite of her warning to the property owner that a permit would be required for work on the lot.

The Agency scheduled a site walk on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. They will meet at the Annex and carpool to the site.

V. PENDING APPLICATIONS

1. G & S Trolley Trail Phase II

Debbie Marshall-Baker reviewed the revisions to the plan. Work has been pulled off of the Haley Farm property due to the difficulty in obtaining a construction easement from the State. The Mumford Cove Association has signed the application for the work adjacent to Neptune Drive.

MOTION: To approve the G&S Trolley Trail, Phase 2 application for the following reasons:

1. There is no loss of wetland or watercourse as a result of this project.
2. The work will take place in an area previously disturbed by a trail.

This permit is subject to the standard four conditions.

Motion by Sutphen, seconded by Block, so voted unanimously

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Report of Chair

None

2. Report of Staff

Staff reported that the Crandall enforcement action is complete. Mr. Crandall was liable for up to \$100,000 in fines and \$33,000 in Attorney's fees. The judge determined that \$4,000 was an appropriate fine and ordered him to pay \$10,000 in Attorney's fees.

Staff reported that she is working on an enforcement action on Thomas Road. A portion of the lot has been cleared and brush piled. Work has taken place in wetlands and along Birch Plain Creek. The owner is aware of the work, but claims that he did not cut any trees. The Agency agreed that the wetlands do not have to be flagged. Staff will issue an order to re-vegetate the property.

Staff reported that the Town has closed on the Spicer property and that the Conservation Commission will be hosting a tour in June.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. by Sutphen, seconded by Block, so voted unanimously

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Dave Scott, Chairman  
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby  
Office Assistant II